



# The Weekly Page

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1

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## Pages Learn About Legislature

### Board game simulates bill process.

On Monday, pages played a board game designed to simulate for them the process by which a bill becomes a law in Washington State. They came to understand that only about ten percent of the bills that are introduced actually become laws. They also experienced the frustration of having a bill "die" in the middle of the process.



### The 10<sup>th</sup> Grade WASL

Today, Senator Tess Curran introduced Senate bill 5117, which addresses the issue of The WASL "The bill is a good one because it will help lower the stress levels of 9<sup>th</sup> graders," said Senator Tess Curran. With this bill 10<sup>th</sup> graders don't have to worry about the WASL as much. Also the 9<sup>th</sup> graders have a chance to take the WASL so they don't have to take as much in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### *I'm Just A Bill* video provides review of bill process

After playing the Bill Process Game, pages viewed the video *I'm Just A Bill*. Many of them stated that they remembered viewing this in elementary school. This short video accurately illustrates all of the steps in the process.



### Putting The Shutup On The Bikers.

Today, Representative Miles Bedinger introduced House bill 3890, which addresses the issue of overly loud vehicles. "The bill is a good one because those "hogs" are disturbing the sanctity of suburban, rural and urban living," said Representative Miles Bedinger. This new bill will require bikers to add mufflers to reduce the noise emitted. The Representative's new bill halts future production of the abominations. To ensure that such ideals will be followed, fines will be issued. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/10/06.

### Gay Marriage To Be Legalized?

Today, Senator Brittany Cruz introduced Senate bill 8922, which addresses the issue of gay marriage. "The bill is a good one because it allows people to choose who they want to marry even if the person is of the same gender," said Senator Cruz. The bill will let people marry other people of the same sex, and will not limit people to marrying just the opposite sex. People will be given the option and will have the right to marry whom they want. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### The WASL

Today, Senator Jami Dedzy introduced Senate bill 5151, which addresses the issue of The WASL. "The bill is a good one because The tenth graders won't have to worry about passing the WASL to graduate from high school," said Senator Jami Dedzy. This bill will help ninth graders and tenth graders have less stress and they will be in better moods. This bill may help them get better grades in school because they aren't trying to work so hard to get everything answer right. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 11, 2006.

### Cellular Phone Use In Motor Vehicles

Today, Representative Jacob Alexander introduced House bill 1666, which addresses the issue of Driving Safely. "The bill is a good one because it keep the drivers focused on driving, and not on the other person on the other line. It keeps the driver, and drivers around them safe from the accidental or incidental flaws caused by driving distracted and unaware," said Representative Jacob Alexander. This bill will abolish the chances and occurrences of motor vehicle accidents, the lack of focus, reduction of reaction time, slow thinking, and not paying attention, that may occur when distracted by a cellular phone when driving. Through consequence and warning, bill 1666 will keep distracted drivers on cellular phones off the roads, creating a safer driving environment for others. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### Education Is Power: Why Lose It?

Today, Representative Rebecca Campbell introduced House bill 1204, which addresses the issue of School Year Timeframe/ Distribution. "The bill is a good one because it prevents education loss and repeated curriculum," said Representative Campbell. The school districts of Washington State will alter the timeframe in which a school year takes place. The current number of school days will be kept intact, while all these days will dispersed evenly throughout a 365-day time period (eliminating breaks any length greater than 14 days). The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### Pages write bills

Each page wrote a bill designed to solve a problem. Topics for bills included driving age, noise control, fewer school hours for high-schools students, and cell-phone use. They reflect real issues that affect teen-age lives in Washington State. Bills were printed so pages can keep them.



### Right To Privacy

Today, Representative Quinn Carlin introduced House bill 4334, which addresses the issue of security cameras in schools. "The bill is a good one because it provides a safe and comfortable environment for uncertain teenagers," said Representative Quinn Carlin. The House bill 4334 is to give students the feeling of a

safe environment. This bill will mean any recording device to monitor students activities is banned. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### Politically Correct Christmas?

Today, Representative C.J.Witkoe introduced House bill 1000, which addresses the issue of Politically correct people. "The bill is a good one because no one likes complainers," said Representative Witkoe.. Christmas is a Christian holiday and if you are offended by it don't celebrate it. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### Emissions Of Harmful Pollution Can Be Reduced!

Today, Representative Caitlyn Echterling introduced House bill 1234, which addresses the issue of pollution emissions from factories. "The bill is a good one because pollution is very harmful to the environment as well as humans. The earth can only take so many beatings before the repercussions of our actions strike back," said Representative Echterling. This bill will make factories cut down on the pollution they produce at a reasonable rate to encourage cooperation. The factory will be fined if they do not comply within 100 days, accordingly with the amount of pollution produced over the new regulations. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.



### Pages lobby their own bills

Pages practiced lobbying techniques as they encouraged their colleagues to support their bills in committee hearings. They created posters and completed media releases for this newsletter.

### Graduating With More Than A Six-Pack

Today, Senator Jess Emde introduced Senate bill 5678, which addresses the issue of high school physical education classes. "The bill is a good one because many high school are wasting valuable doing sit-ups, and spend time in the locker rooms and in the gym being tormented by their peers because of their inferior athletic skills," said Senator Emde. This bill will eliminate

physical education classes as a graduation requirement, which will increase the number of other classes and electives students can take, and decrease the amount of bullying. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 11, 2006.

## Traffic And Gas At An All Time High

Today, Senator Michael Fromme introduced Senate bill 7548, which addresses the issue of the six month law. "The bill is a good one because by repealing this law both the amount of traffic and gas usage would go down in the state of Washington," said Senator Michael Fromme. The bill states that the six month law would be repealed. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## New Bill To Protect Animals

Today, Senator Fulton introduced Senate bill 5044, which addresses the issue of animal testing. "The bill is a good one because animals deserve to be protected and they are not getting that protection now," said Senator Fulton. The bill will prohibit companies from using animals for product testing. The animals that are being used for testing now will be released from the companies after the bill is adopted. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

## Committees debate bills, vote

Pages participated in simulated committee hearings on Wednesday. They read their bills and 'committee' members, governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure, debated the pros and cons of the bills. When pages voted on bills, some ideas were passed on to an imagined legislative body, while others "died" in committee.



## New Bill Proposed On Gun Control

Today, Representative Kole Galbraith introduced House bill 2634, which addresses the issue of Gun Control. "The bill is a good one because the bill will insure the safety of our schools, cities, and communities," said Representative Kole Galbraith. The bill proposes that any person under the age of 18 must have a parent around or a parent permission and proof of parental permission to use the firearm, and that person needs to have a firearm license or that person will be fined. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan 11, 2006.

## Elder Driving to be Limited

Today, Senator Tessa Gorley introduced Senate bill 5001, which addresses the issue of driving. "The bill is a good one because we might not have as many accidents," said Senator Gorley. Elders tend to drive slower and can't see or hear things as good as other people. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## Politically Correct Language

Today, Representative Grondel introduced House bill 3854, which addresses the issue of Political Correctness and Verbal Offences. "The bill is a good one because The bill presented enacts the right to speak freely of your denomination's holiday or holidays in commercial or traditional use, for example Christmas and Easter. It also concerns what you can and can not be charged with by using words that may offend or insult someone, such as curse words, racial slurs, and/or crude or indecent language," said Representative Grondel. The bill is being presented to cut down the amount of cases that are put forth because someone is offended or insulted by language or words used. It also protects the right of the people to speak freely about their chosen denomination's holidays and celebrations. The bill also protects business owners against law suits filled by people offended by the holiday in which they chose to represent. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.



*Senator Paull Shinn*



*Senator Stephen Johnson*



*Rep. Zack Hudgins*



*Rep. Dennis Flannigan*

## Johnson, Flannigan, Hudgins, Shin visit, speak, answer questions

Senator Stephen Johnson R-47; Representative Dennis Flannigan D-27; Representative Zack Hudgins D-11; and Senator Paull Shin D-21 joined the pages during their classes on Thursday. They told students about how they came to be involved in



politics, and they discussed issues they are working on during this session. Pages were able to interact with these guests.

## **A Way For Schools To Find Dangerous Weapons Has Been Found**

Today, Representative Guffey introduced House bill 4515, which addresses the issue of students bringing potentially dangerous weapons that can cause severe injury or even death to school. "The bill is a good one because , with a law like this one in effect, schools will be able to find any dangerous equipment that a student has with them (i.e. gun, knife), get the equipment away from the student, and keep schools safer," said Representative Guffey. This bill will have security guards with metal detectors stationed at each major entrance to the school. They will need to search for any weapon that someone may have on them with the metal detector before allowing them to enter the school. If found with a dangerous weapon, the person in question will face a \$150,000. If they don't pay the fine, then the person will most likely do jail time. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11th, 2006.

## **Reduce Residential Crime By Requiring Each Household To Own A Firearm**

Today, Senator Barron Hamilton introduced Senate bill 5987, which addresses the issue of residential crime. "The bill is a good one because it seriously discourages crime in residential areas," said Senator Hamilton. This bill would reduce crime in residences by placing a firearm in each household (Paid for by the house owner, unless they cannot afford it, and then paid for by the State.) This would be paid for by a 10% tax on all ammunition. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## **No More WASL**

Today, Senator Rachel Hammond introduced House bill 5678, which addresses the issue of standardized testing. "The bill is a good one because these tests are not necessary to the education of students.," said Senator Hammond. This bill will make standardized tests optional to schools. Students will no longer be required to pass the tenth grade WASL in order to graduate high school.. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.



## **Budget debate stirs emotions**

Using actual state budget figures, pages debated how to balance the state's operating budget. Their task was to make up a \$3 billion deficit. "Is it always this hard?" asked a page as the debate intensified.



## **Will Washington Go Sugarless?**

Today, Senator Brendan Keegan introduced Senate bill 5387, which addresses the issue of Candy Commercials. "The bill is a good one because it will help make Washington's youth ,," said Senator Keegan. The bill prohibits the distributions of candy commercials on TV stations and explains a fine if there is failure to comply with law. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## **Deaths Destined To Decrease If Bill 3333 Passes**

Today, Representative Kilpela introduced House bill 3333, which addresses the issue of the Distribution and Use of Guns. "The bill is a good one because it will decrease gang violence and gun related deaths steadily each year.," said Representative Kilpela. The bill shows the importance of controlling the use of guns and says that all public guns and handguns should be taken away in order for innocent communities to feel safe from unnecessary harm and violence. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11th, 2006.

## **Health Providers Are Banning Government People**

Today, Representative Becky Kleine introduced House bill 3773, which addresses the issue of Health care. "The bill is a good one because it gives people a chance to get better if they're sick, or to heal correctly if they are hurt," said Representative Kleine. This bill will have all health providers treat and take care of all people who need health care paid for by the government. It will fine health providers who do not assist them within thirty days after the governor has signed it. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/11/06.

## How Many Puffs Does It Take To Kill One Person???

Today, Senator McCaughan introduced Senate bill 7401, which addresses the issue of Second Hand Smoke. "The bill is a good one because it will hopefully save the lives of many that would have died because of second hand smoke," said Senator McCaughan. With this bill we will build small buildings in which people may smoke. In this way, when you are walking down the street or eating in a restaurant you may go about your business without having to smell it, because the stations will be far enough away from where you are. This is to prevent people from getting sick or dying because the lesser of the population's habits. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 11, 2006.

## Pages celebrate, mingle at Thursday pizza party

Thursday afternoon, pages took a break from their regular duties and socialized with each other while eating pizza. This was an opportunity for House and Senate pages to mingle.

## Responsible Youth

Today, Senator Trevan Meador introduced Senate bill 8675, which addresses the issue of child labor laws. "The bill is a good one because it will make Washington's youth more responsible by allowing them to work at a younger age," said Senator Meador. This bill will incline businesses to hire younger workers with the reward of a tax rebate. This rebate will be paid for by a small state-wide coffee tax. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/11/06.



## Sleeping In

Today, Representative Kathleen Mikula introduced House bill 4321, which addresses the issue of student sleep deprivation. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce the problem of sleep deprivation and related issues," said Representative Mikula. The bill will serve to reduce the issue of tired students in school. Middle and high schools will be required to start no later than 8:30 and end no later than 3:30. Violators will have their funding revoked by the state. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11th, 2005.

## The Long Road Ahead

Today, Representative Kelsey Neels introduced House bill 1104, which addresses the issue of requirements to obtain a driver's license. "The bill is a good one because it ensures that the new driver would be more prepared for driving on the road with the more experienced drivers," said Representative Neels. The bill would make getting a driver's license harder by requiring a driver to pass every part of their practical driver's test. They would require extra courses in the areas where the driver failed, such as parallel parking, and passing grades on both the written and practical test. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## Jeopardy creates hit

On Friday, pages tested their knowledge of the Legislative process in a spirited game of *Jeopardy*. Winning teams were awarded certificates and brightly colored stickers that they wore proudly for the rest of the day.



## Let The Innocent Babies Live

Today, Representative Carrie Ojeda introduced House bill 1123, which addresses the issue of Abortions. "The bill is a good one because I think it will reduce teen pregnancies," said Representative Ojeda. The bill will reduce teen pregnancies because if a teenage girl was to get pregnant then they would have to have the kid, they wouldn't be able to get rid of it. Doctors will not be able to perform this procedure without having serious action take place. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## Video Game Sales

Today, Representative Spencer Perkinson introduced House bill 1112, which addresses the issue of Video Game Sale Restriction. "The bill is a good one because it appeals to the youth of the state," said Representative Spencer Perkinson. The bill states that any Video Game can be distributed. Also any game regardless of rating can be purchased by any person. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## Diving Clean And Clear On The Sides

Today, Representative Beth Racher introduced House bill 2229, which addresses the issue of litter on the sides of the highways. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce the

litter on our highways and also reduce some of the effect on our major pollution problem,” said Representative Racher. In order to reduce or stop the pileup of garbage and litter on our highways this law will be enforce that who ever is caught littering or throwing garbage out their window will be fined. The money collected from those fines will be used to advertise the bill . The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/11/06.

### Historical pages

Our legislature has employed pages for many years. These photos are of pages who served in past years. The first female page served in 1937.



### Young Teens To Work In Washington?

Today, Representative Lauren Reed introduced House bill 1999, which addresses the issue of the minimum age required to hold a real, paying job. “The bill is a good one because it will not only provide a way for teens to generate their own money, but it will also train them in the skills necessary for a real adult in the real world,” said Representative Reed. This bill would change the minimum work age from 16 years old to 13 years old. While some adults might argue that 13-year-olds are not old enough or responsible enough to hold a job, this law would be the first step on the path to change! Merely by the fact of having a job, teens become more responsible and time efficient. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### A Life Time in High School

Today, Senator Ryland Penta introduced Senate bill 5555, which addresses the issue of the WASL. “The bill is a good one because there is a looming disaster over us in our near future ,” said Senator Penta. Changing the WASL will make it so that none of the students of Washington will have to pass the WASL but will need to take the test and place it in their portfolio but will no longer be a graduation requirement. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/11/06.

## Amber Alert And Not Jessica's Law What Is Wrong

Today, Senator Sarah Curl introduced Senate bill 6822, which addresses the issue of Jessica's Law. “The bill is a good one because it prevents child Sex Offenders,” said Senator Curl. With the Jessica's Law when a Sex Offender commits a crime they will have to spend a lot longer in jail then they are now. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.



### Page School teachers

Page School's 2005 teachers are (l-r): Paul Prociv, BJ Lutz, and Vicky Whinnery.

### Using Turn Signals Becomes Law

Today, Representative Kevin Shay introduced House bill 4444, which addresses the issue of using turn signals when turning or switching lanes. “The bill is a good one because if people use this system correctly everyone will be safer on Washington roads because of fellow drivers knowing when other drivers are turning,” said Representative Kevin Shay. This bill will give the public an option to report drivers that did not use their turn signals and this neglect caused danger to themselves and other drivers. Once someone has received three complaints about their neglect to use their turn signals they will receive a fine. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

### Stop Driving Hindered By Distraction

Today, Representative Ryan Shay introduced House bill 1111, which addresses the issue of Traffic Safety. “The bill is a good one because it promotes and enforces safe, responsible driving,” said Representative Shay. House Bill 1111 prohibits the use of the cellular phone while a citizen is driving. A offender hotline and higher alert for drivers hindered the distraction of a cell phone will be the enforcers for this bill. If passed, Bill 1111 will force drivers to concentrate on driving and promote responsibility while behind the wheel. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.



## Animals In Shelters Should Live Longer

Today, Representative Nicole Shute introduced House bill 2598, which addresses the issue of animal shelters. "The bill is a good one because it will give people more opportunity to adopt animals in the shelters before they are euthanized and it will allow animals more time to live," said Representative Shute. This bill requires that each shelter allow each animal to live for at least one year from the time they arrive at the shelter before they are euthanized. Whether or not the state government will fund and how much money they will provide each shelter depends on their compliance. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## Page School on the web

The Page School has its own web site. You can find us at: [www1.leg.wa.gov/WorkingwithLeg/PageSchool/](http://www1.leg.wa.gov/WorkingwithLeg/PageSchool/). This newsletter has been posted there.

## No More Roundabouts

Today, Senator Kaaleb Terrell introduced Senate bill 8181, which addresses the issue of annoyingness. "The bill is a good one because roundabouts are confusing and annoying," said Senator Terrell. I think roundabouts should not be built because they are annoying and confusing. If we stop building them we will save money. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 10, 2006.

## Make Cigarette Smoking Safe For Everyone

Today, Senator Kevin Tran introduced Senate bill 6325, which addresses the issue of The making of health safe cigarettes. "The bill is a good one because it does not prevent smokers from smoking and makes it safer," said Senator Tran. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on January 11, 2006.

## Allow Elders to Drive

Today, Senator Sydney Walter introduced Senate bill 5500, which addresses the issue of Traffic safety. "The bill is a good one because it provides safer roadways and ensures less accidents and traffic," said Senator Walter. With this bill elderly people over the age of 65 will be required to take a driver's test. If the person does not pass the test they will not be permitted to drive a vehicle on main or major roadways. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Jan. 11, 2006.

## Let Elderly People Drive

Today, Senator Brent Worden introduced Senate bill 5218, which addresses the issue of elderly drivers. "The bill is a good one be-

cause all of the elderly people should not be banned from driving because there are a few bad older drivers out on the roads.," said Senator Worden. This bill states that elderly drivers should have a chance to prove that they are still a good and safe driver just like everyone else, and that all elderly people should not be banned because some can't drive. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 1/11/06.

